



Barlaston First School
Weekly Newsletter
13 September 2024



Let your light shine through family, friendship and faith

"Enabling our whole school community to flourish and let their light shine, preparing them for their role as gentle and humble agents for change in the world we share."

Lunchtimes and Snacks

The lunchtime routines are now bedding in well. Please remember to top up your Dolce account and to make the menu choices. Ordering is important even if your child is entitled to free school meals so that we can make sure they get the meal that they want on the day.

Earlier in the week we had inevitable teething issues with the snacks but these now appear to have been overcome. Please ensure you top up your account to enable your child to choose a snack if that is what you wish them to do. If you would like your child to bring a snack in from home, rather than use the tuck shop facility that is absolutely fine.

We have had some questions about the milkshake option on the snacks menu. The word "milkshake" is itself slightly misleading. Whilst I take the point it is certainly not comparable to a milkshake that we might purchase from a fast food outlet or a high street café for instance. It is worth stating that all of the food produced by Dolce, whether at lunchtime, snack time or in the before and after school provision meets all school food and nutrition standards. This was one of the key drivers behind the changes we have made and was central to all discussions and negotiations.

We will continue to monitor and review all of this provision, and where we feel any changes are necessary we will make them.

Thank you for your support, and for your patience if you have been impacted by any of the initial issues we have experienced.

Family Worship

Family Worships will begin next **Friday 20th September at 2.55pm.**

Dates for the Diary

The following dates have been agreed so far. Other dates will be added as we become aware of them. Some parents / carers have asked about dates into next autumn, so I have included the school terms and holiday dates up to and including July 2026 to allow for forward planning regarding holidays etc.

Regards,
Mr J Gordon

Dates for the Diary 2024/25

20 September	Family Worship begins 2.55pm
3 October	PTA Meeting in School - Details to follow
10 October	World Mental Health Day - Details to Follow
11 October	Harvest Service in Church 9am
21 October	Disco - Early Years and Year 1 4.30pm - 6pm
22 October	Disco Years 2,3 and 4 4.30pm - 6pm
Half Term 28 October - 1 November	
4 November	Staff Development Day - School Closed to Children
6 November	Parents Evening 3.45pm - 6pm
7 November	Parents Evening 3.45pm - 6pm
8 November	Non-Uniform Day - Details to follow
11 November	Remembrance Service 10.50am
19 November	Flu Vaccination Day
6 December	Records of Achievement 9am - 10am
10 December	Nativity Performance by Early Years 4.30pm
11 December	Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance 2.15pm
12 December	Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance 6.15pm
13 December	Christmas Hamper Raffle Draw in Worship
17 December	School Theatre Trip - The 3 Musketeers
18 December	School Christmas Dinner Day
20 December	Christingle Service in Church 9am
23 December - 3 January 2025 Christmas Break	
10 February	Disco Years 2, 3 and 4
11 February	Disco Early Years and Year 1 4.30pm - 6pm
11 February	Safer Internet Day
17-21 February Half Term	
26 February	Parents Evening
27 February	Parents Evening
28 February	Records of Achievement 9am - 10am
6 March	World Book Day
11 April	Easter Service in Church
2 May	Staff Development Day - School Closed to Children

5 May	Spring Bank Holiday - School Closed
9 May	Sports Day (1 st Attempt)
14-16 May	Year 4 Residential Standon Bowers
23 May	Sports Day (Option 2 if necessary)
26-30 May Half Term	
13 June	Sports Day (Option 3 if necessary)
20 June	Records of Achievement 9am - 10am
9 July	Reports sent out
15 July	Key Stage 2 Summer Performance 1.45pm
16 July	Key Stage 2 Summer Performance 6.15pm
18 July	End of Year Service in Church 9am
21 July	Staff Development Day - School Closed to Children
22 July - 29 August 2025 Summer Break	
1 September 2025	Staff Development Day - School Closed to Children
2 September 2025	Staff Development Day - School Closed to Children
3 September 2025	Autumn Term Starts

2024/25 School Term and Holiday Dates	
Half Term	28 th October - 1 st November
Staff Development Day School Closed to Children	Monday 4 th November
Christmas Break	23 rd December - 3 rd January
Spring 2025	
School Opens	Monday 6 th January 2025
Half Term	17 th - 21 st February 2025
Easter Break	14 th - 25 th April 2025
Summer 2025	
School Opens	Monday 28 th April 2025
Staff Development Day (School Closed to Children)	Friday 2 nd May 2025
May Bank Holiday	Monday 5 th May 2025
Half Term	26 th - 30 th May 2025
Last Day of Summer Term	Friday 18 th July 2025
2025/26 School Term and Holiday Dates	
Staff Development Day (School Closed to Children)	1 September
Staff Development Day (School Closed to Children)	2 September
Autumn Term Begins	3 September

Half Term	27th - 31st October 2025
Staff Development Day School Closed to Children	3rd November Monday 3rd November 2025
Christmas Break	22nd December - 2nd January 2026
Spring 2026	
School Opens	Monday 5th January 2026
Half Term	16th - 20st February 2026
Easter Break	30th March - 10th April 2026
Summer 2026	
School Opens	Monday 13th April 2026
Staff Development Day (School Closed to Children)	Friday 1st May 2026
May Bank Holiday	Monday 5th May 2026
Half Term	25th - 29th May 2026
Last Day of Summer Term	Friday 17th July 2026